

PROGRESS.

Board of Works
8 May 99

VOL. XII., NO. 589.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 1899

PRICE FIVE CENTS

BALL TOSSERS' GOSSIP.

WHAT THE BOYS ARE DOING ON ST. JOHN'S DIAMOND.

Why the Tartars Didn't Play the Alerts—Labor Day Games—Tip O'Neill and His Boston Trip—Connolly Retires as Umpire—Why the Roses Don't Want Scott.

Base ball seems to be upon the ebb in Halifax. To let the Tartars make such scores is rather surprising, but a portion of the reports concerning the loose playing of that team are true. There was a time when good ball was played in Halifax, when it paid to have good players and large crowds assembled to see the games. The reason for the decline is not hard to find. It dates back to the days of Pickering and then this year when the game was beginning to recover favor the Roses gave it a set back by attempting some funny business.

There does not seem to be any remedy for such breaks. There is no league, no system of fines, and the payment to the players is so meagre and uncertain that few of them can afford to spend all of their time on ball. Until the day arrives when the people will support base ball well enough to make decent salaries possible the management can have no control over their teams. Look at the Roses. In a short space of time two of their best players have deserted them, McLeod to accept a permanent position which has nothing to do with ball and O'Neill to take chance in one of the National league teams. If the boys had been getting decent pay from the Roses and had signed an agreement to stay during the season, such changes would not be possible.

The Tartars are almost purely local. The back stop, McLean, is not a native of the capital. He has been there this summer and has played good ball, is a gentleman on the diamond and, so far as St. John knows him, when away from it also McLean the Massachusetts back stop now takes Doran's position and Sterling now plays in Flannagan's place.

Out of 16 games played by the Tartars during the season they have won 15 a great showing and a record which surely entitles them to their claim of Champions of the Maritime Provinces.

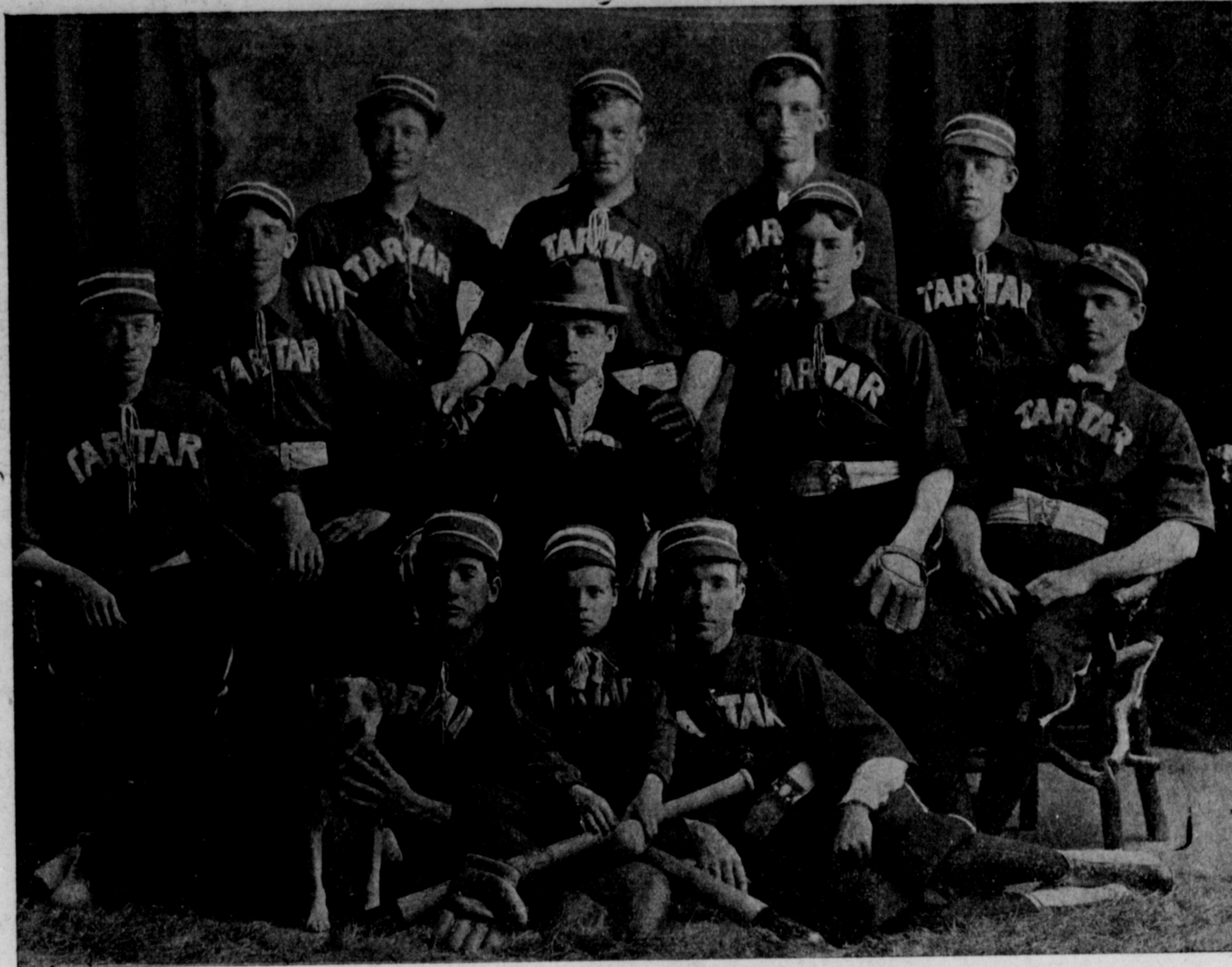
There was some hops here that before returning to Fredericton the Tartars would have given the Alerts a game but there is etiquette in ball playing as in everything else. The Alerts owe the Tartars a call, or rather games in Fredericton, and until they are played there the boys from the capital won't play here. The rule is that St. John gives Fredericton \$65 for coming here and playing two games. No matter how large the crowds are the Alerts or Roses get all that is over that sum and local expenses. Owing to some difference in expenses St. John gets \$60 for two games in Fredericton and the Tartars get the rest. It seems that Manager Armstrong of the Alerts offered the Tartars \$100 for two games but they refused on the ground stated above.

Tip O'Neill's offer of a trial on the Boston team has occasioned a good deal of talk among the ball tossers. "Hardly up to league standard" is a common remark. Perhaps not in some ways but in others well up to it. He couldn't play second base on the Boston team, but he can field well, run bases with any of them and is no slouch at stick work. He is a good man knows how to take care of his health and should give a fair account of himself on a trial.

The Roses will have a crack battery next week. They will not say just who they are but their backers are eager to wager on the success of their team against the Alerts when they meet. When will they meet? Sometime next week some say and others say not. Connolly will not umpire any more because he is the manager of the Roses and this team will not agree to Scott because they say he is one of the "committee" controlling the Alerts. There is some truth in this no doubt. Scott has engaged men for the Alerts and looks out for teams to play them. But where will the umpire come from? Is there no one in town capable of filling the position? The job isn't a snap especially when there is only two or three dollars a game in it.

There is some difficulty about labor day games. It seems that there was some sort of an agreement at the beginning of the season about holiday games. The Roses say that the understanding was that two games

THE FREDERICTON TARTARS.



J. DORAN C AND R P., B. McFARLANE L. P., G. O. FINNAMORE S. S., TOM HOWE P. AND 2B., A. SWEENEY, F. FLANNAGAN, A. TIBBITS C P. Mer. Umpire man W. McSOLDRICK 1B. E. EMBREE C AND R P. GEO FERGUSON 2B. CAPT. J. TIBBITS P. W. JONES, mssct.

FREDERICTON, Aug. 24, 1899.—The Tartars of Fredericton have just returned from a successful trip to Halifax and St. John, playing four games—two with Halifax and two with the St. John Roses. Winning three out of the four games—whilst many ball-cranks claim the whole lot for the champions, the umpire being it is claimed, responsible for their defeat in their first game with the Roses.

The photos of the Tartars which appears in PROGRESS today was taken before the changes that have been made recently: McLean the Massachusetts back stop now takes Doran's position and Sterling now plays in Flannagan's place.

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May 24 Tartars 12	Crescents, St. John, 11	July 18 Tartars 17	Houltons " 4	Aug 15 Tartars 11	Portlands " 9
" " 16	" " 3	" 21 " 6	Alerts, St. John, 4	" 16 " 6	Roses St. John, 6
June 14 " 17	Roses " 15	Aug. 1 " 7	" " 0	" 17 " 5	" " 6
" 16 " 17	" " 3	" 8 " 15	All Collegians 11	" 19 " 23	Resolute, Halifax, 5
" 16 " 17	" " 3	" 9 " 15	" " 1	" 21 " 11	" " 1
July 18 " 32	Houltons " 2	" 14 " 17	Portlands 11		

were to be played on May 24th, on the Shamrock grounds, two on July 1st on the Victoria grounds and two on labor day on the Shamrock grounds. Of course the Roses got the most money on the Shamrock grounds and the Alerts likewise on the Victoria grounds. Now the Alerts want to divide the receipts on Labor day and the Roses refuse and threaten to bring a foreign team here. If any agreement cannot be reached there will likely be plenty of ball on that holiday.

CONSTABLE GIBBONS AND KING.
A City Official Who is Said to Have Encouraged a Disturbance.

Constable Gibbons is not a big man but according to all accounts he had something to do with that disgraceful disturbance on Fort Howe on last Sunday. He is a city official, sworn to assist in preserving the peace and yet he seems to have been very prominent in leading the disorderly mob that surrounded the spouter King and endeavored to stone him from the height.

King appears to be one of those sort of bigots who go around making trouble. He is apparently trying to take Father Chiquy's place but he lacks all of those qualities that made that man so well known. He preaches no popery and all that sort of thing. A few months ago he preached in a hall on Main street and then there was trouble and a long police court investigation which caused bad feeling among a number of people. This time King started to preach on Fort Howe which is a sort of recreation ground for a lot of the North End people many of whom are members of the catholic church. They did not allow him to get far in his discourse before he was interrupted and the police had to interfere.

One Sunday's experience should have taught him and the police that his words were provoking a breach of the peace and the occasion should not have been repeated. But last Sunday he tried it again and then there was serious trouble. Stones were thrown, women were struck and trampled upon, faces were cut open and a howling indignant mob followed King to the police station where he had to seek protection. Gibbons was one of the ring leaders and he was before the police court on a charge of assault brought by King. The magistrate took Gibbons' denial of the charge and

dismissed the case which the common council now propose to try in their own fashion.

MR. MICHAEL BLACKHALL'S DEATH.
He Passes Away When From Home On a Business Trip.

The news of the death of Mr. Michael Blackhall away from home and friends came as a painful surprise to those who have been watching his health with some concern in this city. He went to Queens county on business and was found dead in his bed shortly after his arrival there.

Perhaps there was no man better known in the city than Mr. Blackhall. He was not so advanced in years as many took him to be having hardly reached the allotted age of man. His physical condition and looks gave him the appearance of advanced age. Still whatever his years were he was always youthful and buoyant in thought, regarding life from its brighter side even while so seriously ill that his friends thought he could not recover. A year or two ago it used to be his proud boast that he had never been ill. He was a stranger to such an article of clothing as an overcoat when around town in the coldest day of winter and it may be that was the reason he contracted the serious attack of congestion which may almost be said to have been the start of his illness.

He was a keen horseman, a man who not only lived by them but who loved to see them cared for and attended to with the greatest of care. His livery stable was a model in many ways and the personal attention the owner gave to the animals he owned and boarded often surprised those who knew him best. No matter what happened, when alive and well, Mr. Blackhall always took care that once a day at least his horses were fed by himself. He will be missed and regretted by many who esteemed him for his sterling qualities.

Suspension Of the Record.

The Daily Record suspended publication Thursday evening. For a short time it has been a one cent four page paper but there are not enough people in St. John to support that sort of a venture. The Record's suspension came as a surprise to lots of its readers but it was not to those who knew that the owner wished to get out of newspaper life and to this end endeavored to dis-

pose of his property. Not succeeding in doing this publication was suspended and now a splendid double cylinder press and an almost new and complete dress of type is on the market.

THERE WAS NOTHING BUT WORD.
And the Newspaper Man Escaped the Fredericton Man's Wrath.

The experience of a newspaper man is not always pleasant. This was proved the other night in the Celestial city. A scribe on one of the local papers was responsible for a little personal squib which chronicled the fact that "our Chauncey Depew had returned home from his gubernatorial trip," or words to that effect. The gentleman did not appreciate the term applied to him as "Chauncey" and made up his mind to retaliate. One night armed with a black cat he proceeded to the hotel where the officious scribe holds out. He was not alone for he had an admiring crowd in close pursuit to watch the turn of events—among them a down-town druggist, an Ex-M. P. P., a prominent St. John lawyer and alderman, an expert horseman and one or two other equally prominent citizens. The combatants met at the door—there were words and words and more words—the aggrieved threw off his coat and prepared to sail in a la Juffries, the scribe held his breath in terror awaiting the deadly onslaught of the wrathful "Chauncey." The spectators stood in awe but the blow which "almost killed father" never came. The air was fanned into a regular nor-west cyclone whilst the arms of the enraged "Chauncey" were put into motion to do the pivot act, but all were doomed to dire disappointment for the scribe had suddenly disappeared "around the dark corner" and the wrath of the indignant "Depew" exhausted its deadly vapor upon the midnight air.

To Visit Their Old Home.

A letter from Mr. A. W. Masters, general manager of the London Guarantee and Accident company in the United States, that he and Mrs. Masters and their two children will visit St. John about September 10th and remain for ten days, renewing old acquaintances and introducing their two children who, by the way, are both American born, to their parents' old home. It is not necessary to say that both Mr. and Mrs. Masters will get a warm welcome from their many friends. While here they will stop at the Duferin.

CAN'T GET THEIR ROOMS.

THE CHIEF OF POLICE IS STILL FIRMLY IN OPPOSITION

To Giving Inspector Jones a Key to a Room to Keep Seized Liquor in or to Allotting a Private Room For the Use of the Detective of the Force—Some of the Reasons.

"Have you got that room yet John?" This is the question that is greeting Detective John Ring nowadays and perhaps there is something in it that is not always pleasant.

For some time the chief has been asking that he should have a vacant apartment that is just off the guard room for his own but the chief insists that there is no necessity for this.

Even if there was no necessity for it there surely could not be much objection to the detective of a police force like that in St. John having a room, especially when there is one vacant. But it may be that the chief thinks one room would not be sufficient because it is difficult to say sometimes just who are detectives and who are not. It would almost seem as if Ring should at least have knowledge of all the cases that need inquiring into but it is said that he has not, that frequently other officers are called upon to hunt up information which he has in his possession and which would be gladly given if he knew it was required.

The voluminous books in the chief's office are not the only ones that are kept. An officer who is on the look out for criminals all or nearly all the time should at least have a private desk of his own to keep his memoranda in. And when there is a room to spare why not let him have the room. In reality he has as much need of it as the captain and in many respects greater need.

Still the chief does not think so and as long as that is the case and the Safety board is inactive of course he will have his way. Under the law passed last winter certain powers were given the council in reference to the control of police affairs but it does not seem as if the aldermen wished to avail themselves of the privilege. They were indignant then and even went so far as to say that if such and such was not done the Chief of Police would have to walk the plank. The government didn't care, they did not want to assume the responsibility for the chief and so instead of dismissing that official they gave the council power to clip his wings. But the safety board has mislaid its scissors and his feathers are as long as ever. The application of Ring for a room has been before them but nothing has been done.

It was before them, unofficially perhaps before the magistrate gave that noted order about the tea—by the way where is that tea?—and the fact transpired that there was no place to put goods in charge of the detective. It may be that the chief thinks nothing should be in the detective's charge but all under his own eye. The magistrate differed with him so far as the stolen tea was concerned.

It is pretty nearly time the question was settled and when that is done a number of others should be put on the shelf at the same time. The chief protested earnestly against the advent of the liquor license inspector into the police building. In one respect Mr. Jones is his superior officer. He is the chief inspector and Mr. Clarke is the sub inspector. The latter has to report his informations to Mr. Jones and it is all according to the evidence he submits whether a prosecution follows or not. But in spite of this fact the sub inspector in his character as chief of police does not want the chief inspector even to have the key of a room in the basement in which he might keep any liquor that might be seized. The request was not an unreasonable one. Reasons might have been given why it was necessary for the chief inspector to have a key but they were not given. Still the objection of the chief in the eyes of a portion of the committee appointed to look into the matter was sufficient reason why the inspector's request should be laid to one side.

So from this time when any seizure is made of liquor it will have to be carted down to the rooms of the inspector and the license commissioner on Prince William street and if the magistrate orders it produced in court, as he sometimes does of necessity, it will have to be carted or lugged from the inspector's office to the police station and back again.

So the inspector and the detective are for the present on the wrong side of the question. The chief will not have liquor in the station—the tea has departed too. Some say it was too strong to stay in the building and for this reason went on an excursion as far as the lake. No doubt the limpid waters that flow into Carleton are all that is necessary to reduce its strength.

Opera House Labor Day September Fourth.

H. Price Webber's Company, supporting the popular Actress Edwina Grey, two performances only.